

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 10845 301635Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 H-01 EB-07 L-03 COME-00  
FEAE-00 /034 W

-----010383 301640Z /43

P R 301616Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5699  
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 10845

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, EFIN. RH  
SUBJECT: LONRHO SUIT AGAINST 29 OIL COMPANIES

REFERENCE: (A) LONDON 1992; (B) LONDON 3787;  
(C) STATE 144549

1. FCO, AFTER SOME INVESTIGATION. HAS INFORMED US THAT THE LONRHO SUIT IS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR A HEARING IN THE HIGH COURT. LONRHO ISSUED ITS WRIT AND STATEMENT OF CLAIM AGAINST THE COMPANIES ON APRIL 29. THE COURT RULED THAT THE DEFENDANTS MUST RESPOND TO THE CLAIM BY MAY 28, BUT LEGAL PROCEDURE HERE REQUIRES THAT THE DEFENSE SUBMIT ITS INITIAL BRIEF DIRECTLY TO THE PLAINTIFF AND NOT TO THE COURT. IT IS THEN UP TO THE PLAINTIFF TO REQUEST A HEARING. LONRHO SO FAR HAS NOT MADE THIS REQUEST.

2. THE FCO, IN CONFIDENCE, IS SENDING US A COPY OF LONRHO'S STATEMENT OF CLAIM, WHICH WE WILL FORWARD TO AF/S FOR PETERSON. WE SUSPECT THE STATEMENT WILL REFLECT TINY ROWLAND'S CORRESPONDENCE WITH TRADE SECRETARY  
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OF STATE EDMUND DELL, DESCRIBED IN REFTEL B, COPIES OF WHICH WE POUCHED TO AF/S IN MARCH.

3. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY AND FCO RECORDS, THERE HAVE BEEN NO PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY ANY OF THE COMPANIES.

BREWSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** OILS, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, LITIGATION, BUSINESS FIRMS, FRAUDS, ECONOMIC WARFARE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977LONDON10845  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770234-0054  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 LONDON 1992, 77 LONDON 3787, 77 STATE 144549  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2067108  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LONRHO SUIT AGAINST 29 OIL COMPANIES  
**TAGS:** PFOR, OVIP, EFIN, RH  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/47786078-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009